

In the Claims:

The below amended claims replace all previous claims in the application.

1 1. (currently amended) A bone plate adapted for use in securing a joint portion to a long
2 portion of an osteotomically separated long bone, the bone plate having a longitudinal
3 axis, a bone-contacting bottom side and a top side with at least one complex aperture each
4 complex aperture comprised of at least one set of two overlapping holes having an offset
5 of a given distance therebetween centers thereof and oriented along the longitudinal axis
6 for securing the plate to the long bone, ~~the offset equal to less than the sum of the radii of~~
7 ~~each such adjacent overlapping holes yet more than a radius of a larger such overlapping~~
8 ~~holes~~, such offset defining a necked down portion between the overlapping holes, each
9 overlapping hole having female threaded surfaces formed therein adapted to lock with
10 threads of a corresponding bone screw, the bone plate including a second hole for
11 securing the joint portion to the long bone portion, the second hole positioned
12 substantially offset from ~~on an angle with respect to~~ the longitudinal axis.

1 2. (previously presented) The bone plate of claim 1, wherein the apertures positioned so as
2 to be on a side of the point of osteotomy when applied to bone include wide bevels on a
3 far end of the aperture away from the osteotomy site.

1 3. (previously presented) The bone plate of claim 1, wherein bone plate further includes at
2 least one locking bone peg having a threaded head which locks with the threads of a
3 corresponding overlapping hole of an aperture, thereby better ensuring rigid fixing of a

4 fracture when using pegs having a body without threads.

1 4. (cancelled)

1 5. (original) The bone plate of claim 1, wherein the bone plate includes at least one round
2 hole having a corresponding countersink, the countersink being axially offset from an
3 orientation perpendicular to the top surface by a predetermined angle.

1 6. (original) The bone plate of claim 5, wherein the predetermined angle is approximately
2 25 degrees.

1 7. (currently amended) A bone plate of complex form, suitable for use in osteotomy, the
2 bone plate having

3 (a) a least two axes on which bone screw receiving holes are located including a
4 longitudinal axis and an axis substantially angled therefrom, and

5 (b) a bone-contacting bottom side and a top side with at least one complex aperture
6 each complex aperture comprised of at least one set of two overlapping holes having an
7 offset of a given distance therebetween centers thereof and oriented along the longitudinal
8 axis for securing the plate to the long bone, ~~the offset equal to less than the sum of the~~
9 ~~radii of each such adjacent overlapping holes yet more than a radius of a larger such~~
10 ~~overlapping holes~~, such offset defining a necked down portion between the overlapping
11 holes, each overlapping hole having female threaded surfaces formed therein adapted to

12 lock with threads of a corresponding bone screw.

1 8. (previously presented) The bone plate of claim 7, wherein the apertures positioned so as
2 to be on a side of the point of osteotomy when applied to bone include wide bevels on a
3 far end and near end of the apertures with respect to the osteotomy site.

1 9. (previously presented) The bone plate of claim 7, wherein bone plate further
2 accommodates at least one locking bone peg having an unthreaded body and threaded
3 head which locks with threads of a corresponding threaded aperture, thereby better
4 ensuring rigid fixing of a fracture.

1 10. (cancelled).

1 11. (previously presented) The bone plate of claim 7 wherein a distance between the sets
2 of overlapping holes is defined to optimize either closing or opening of wedge femoral
3 osteotomies.

1 12. (original) The bone plate of claim 11 where the distance is approximately 15mm.

1 13. (original) The bone plate of claim 12 where a distal end of the plate forms a natural
2 curve corresponding to the shape of the distal femur in order to minimize the potential of

3 plate overhang.

1 14. (currently amended) An orthopedic kit including:

2 a. a bone plate of complex form, suitable for use in osteotomy, the bone plate having a
3 longitudinal axis, a bone-contacting bottom side and a top side with at least three complex
4 apertures each comprised of at least one set of two overlapping holes having an offset of a
5 given distance between centers thereof and oriented along the longitudinal axis for
6 securing the plate to a long bone, such offset defining a necked down portion between the
7 overlapping holes, each overlapping hole each having female threaded surfaces, the holes
8 communicating through the plate from the top to the bottom side, and wherein, when
9 applied, one set of two adjacent overlapping holes of a complex aperture is located so as
10 to lie on a side of an osteotomy site, the bone plate including a second hole for securing
11 the joint portion to the long bone portion, the second hole positioned substantially offset
12 from the longitudinal axis; and

13 b. at least one bone screw engageable with the bone plate.

1 15. (previously presented) The kit of claim 14, further comprising a drill guide having a
2 main drill guide surface and opposite end portions, one end portion of which is securely
3 engageable with the female threaded surface of a hole in the bone plate so as to securely
4 hold the drill guide in a desired orientation with respect to the bone plate for stabilizing a
5 drill used in an orthopedic procedure.

1 16. (previously presented) The kit of claim 14, wherein, when a bone plate is applied to a
2 bone, at least one set of two overlapping holes is located so as to lie on one side of the

3 osteotomy site and at least one set of two adjacent overlapping holes is located so as to lie
4 on an opposite side of the osteotomy site and the third is aligned at approximately 60
5 degrees with the longitudinal axis.

1 17. (previously presented) The bone plate of claim 1, further comprising at least two sets
2 of complex apertures each comprised of at least one set of two adjacent overlapping holes
3 each having female threaded surfaces, wherein, when applied, at least one set of two
4 adjacent overlapping holes is located so as to lie on one side of the osteotomy site and at
5 least one set of two adjacent overlapping holes is located so as to lie on an opposite side
6 of the osteotomy site.